

Message Text

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42

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 EB-11 AID-20 IGA-02 OMB-01

TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 XMB-07 L-03

SP-03 DRC-01 /103 W

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R 251016Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5438

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USDOC WASHDC

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AIBJDAN FOR REDSO/WAV

PARIECOR HELMAN

YAOUNDE FOR RDO

USDOC FOR STEPHEN CONGER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, BEXP, GB, US

SUBJ: TR

NSGABON RAILROAD

REF: LIBREVILLE 0535

1. IN CONVERSATION MAY 24, GAVARY (WHO IS PROMOTER OF EUROPEAN GROUP COMPWSTING WITH MORRISON-KNUDSEN FOR BOOUE-FLANCEVILLE STAGE OF RAILROAD) TOLD ME:

A. HE CONVINCED ON BASIS HIS TALKS WITH BONGO THAT BUILDING SECOND STAGE OF RAILROAD WILL BE GIVEN TO AN ASSOCIATION OF COMPANIES INCLUDING (HOPEFULLY) M-K.

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B. HE HAS DISCUSSED MATTER WITH M-K REP IN PARIS

WHO SEEMED AGREEABLE TO PARTICIPATION WITH OTHERS IN
PROJECT. (NOTE: WOULD BE HELPFUL TO EMBASSY IF M-K
WOULD PASS ON INFO ON SUCH TALKS.)

C. HE HAD DISCUSSED MATTER WITH REP OF COMMERCE UNION
BANK WHO HAD INDICATED INTEREST IN FINANCING PROJECT WITH
OR WITHOUT M-K.

2. GAVARY STATD TO ME THAT, IN LINE WITH BONGO'S DESIRE
TO HAVE M-K INCLUDED, HE (GAVARY) PRESSING HARD TO BRING
THEM INTO GROUP DESPITE RELUCTANCE OF EUROPEANHSARTNERS
AND HE HOPEFUL THIS WOULD WORK OUT.

3. REGARDING MATTER OF ENGINEERING CONSULTING FIRM, GAVARY
AGREED 100 PERCENT WITH ME THAT SUCH FIRM SHOULD BE ENGAGED
PRIOR TO IMMENSELY COMHLEX JOB OF REVIEWING BIDS AND HE
THOUGHT DECISION WOULD BE TAKEN SHORTLY AFTER NEW DIRECTOR
OF OCTRA (MASSON WHO REPLACING VION) HAD OFFICIALLY ASSUMED
HIS NEW FUNCTIONS IN EARLY JUNE. AS TO CHOICE OF GROUP TO
BE SELECTED, GAVARY OPINED THAT IT WOULD ALMOST CERTAINLY
BE GOUP HEADED BY SOFRERAIL (WHICH INCLUDES TAMS).

4. ACTION: DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS M-K AND TAMS AS
APPROPRIATE.

5. DECLASSIFY ON RECEIPT.
MCKESSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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TAGS: ETRN, BEXP, GB, US, MORRISON-KNUDSEN, TAMS, SOFRERAIL, GAVARY
To: STATE
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